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Identical letters dated 25 November 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to convey to you the following information.

On 24 November 2018, armed terrorist groups used toxic gases to attack peaceful residential neighbourhoods in Aleppo city. The terrorists fired dozens of chlorine-filled mortars at the Khalidiyah, Hamdaniyah, Shahba', Nile Street and Jam'iyat al-Zahra' neighbourhoods of the city, causing 107 civilians, most of whom were women, children and elderly persons, to suffer from severe asphyxiation and poisoning. The attack also resulted in damage to public and private property in the targeted areas.

This act of terrorism occurred because certain States have facilitated the delivery of chemicals to armed terrorist groups, so that those groups can use them against the Syrian people and then accuse the Syrian Government of having done so. In order to accomplish that aim, scenarios that are devised in advance in the black rooms of the intelligence agencies of certain States that sponsor terrorism are acted out by the terrorists of the "White Helmets" group. The members of that group were involved in this attack because the mortars were fired from areas in which they are active, specifically the south-eastern part of Buraykat village in the Aleppo countryside.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic calls upon the Security Council to condemn these terrorist crimes immediately and forcefully. It also calls upon the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility to maintain international peace and security by taking preventive and punitive measures immediately in respect of those regimes and States that support and fund terrorism. The Council must prevent those States and regimes from continuing to support terrorism and to undermine international peace and security, and it must compel them to implement fully the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014), 2199 (2015) and 2253 (2015).

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mounzer **Mounzer**
Minister Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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